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8 THINGS TO KNOW

Trump re-election campaign kicks off in battleground Florida

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich says a strong economy can help the president get re-elected.

REUTERS

President Donald Trump on Tuesday formally launched what may be an uphill battle to persuade voters to give him four more years in office, as he bets a strong U.S. economy will outweigh voter concerns about his unorthodox style and polarizing policies.

At an evening rally in Orlando, Florida, Trump, who has long made it known he is running for re-election, began making his case with gusto for a second term.

The Trump of 2020 most certainly will bear a strong resemblance to the Trump of 2016 — brash and eager to bash opponents and promote tough policies on trade and immigration.

Two-and-a-half years into his tenure, Trump sees plenty of positive factors, led by a growing economy with low unemployment.

"If the economy stays strong, he is very likely to get re-elected," said Trump confidant Newt Gingrich, a former Republican speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

But the aftermath of an investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, coupled with a presidential style marked by name-calling and eye-popping tweets, has undermined some Americans' confidence in Trump ahead of the November 2020 election.

He also has stirred division with his hard-line policies on immigration, and unsettled business and farm groups with his use of tariffs in trade disputes with China and some allies.

Democrats cite a string of broken promises in Trump's first term, from lowering drug prices to closing corporate tax loopholes and stopping plant closures. In a media call on Tuesday, Democratic Party officials focused on his moves to weaken the signature health care law of his Democratic predecessor, Barack Obama, without providing an alternative.

> **"The thing that is working to our advantage is that this president now has a record to run on."**
> Democratic National Committee Chair Tom Perez

"The thing that is working to our advantage is that this president now has a record to run on," said Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez.

POLLING CONCERNS

A Reuters/Ipsos poll on June 11 gave Trump a 40 percent job approval rating, compared with 57 percent who disapproved. Other opinion polls have shown him running consistently behind his main Democratic challengers, such as former Vice President Joe Biden, in key battleground states.

Republican strategists say the fundamentals favor Trump as he heads into his election but that he faces challenges given his bare-knuckled approach, which he refuses to temper.

"His support with his base is as strong as it's ever been for any Republican incumbent president. The challenge is adding to that and building the coalition he needs for re-election," said Republican strategist Ryan Williams, a former adviser to 2012 Republican nominee Mitt Romney. REUTERS

Immigration roundup will start next week, Trump says

2 President Donald Trump said on Tuesday an immigration roundup will start next week, but did not give details about the planned action, which House Speaker Nancy Pelosi denounced as a "mass deportation dragnet." Trump, who was speaking to reporters at the White House before a trip to Florida, praised Mexico for action he said it had taken in recent days to stem the flow of immigrants to the United States. The Republican president wrote in a tweet on Monday that U.S. authorities would next week begin the process of removing millions of immigrants who are in the United States illegally. Responding to a reporter who said immigration officials did not know about his planned action, Trump said on Tuesday: "They know, they know. They're going to start next week, and with people coming to our country, and they come in illegally — they have to go out." REUTERS

Avenatti gets trial date over alleged Nike extortion

3 Lawyer Michael Avenatti, an outspoken critic of U.S. President Donald Trump, is scheduled to go to trial on Nov. 12 in federal court in Manhattan on charges of extorting Nike. U.S. District Judge Paul Gardephe scheduled the trial at a hearing on Tuesday, according to a court record. Avenatti has pleaded not guilty to the charges. "I look forward to a New York jury hearing all of the relevant evidence relating to Nike," the California lawyer wrote in an email. "I have complete confidence in the truth and am confident that I will be exonerated at the end of the trial." Avenatti, 48, was arrested on March 25 in New York on charges of trying to extort more than $20 million from Nike by threatening to expose what he called its improper payments to recruits for college basketball teams it sponsored. Nike has denied wrongdoing. REUTERS

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Acting U.S. Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan. REUTERS

Shanahan withdraws from defense sec. consideration

A report of a domestic incident involving Shanahan's son surfaced.

Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has withdrawn from consideration to head the U.S. military, President Donald Trump announced on Tuesday, stoking uncertainty about the leadership of the Pentagon at a moment of rising tension with Iran.

The decision comes amid reports of domestic violence in Shanahan's family, including between his ex-wife and his son and another account of violence between him and his ex-wife. The alleged incidents emerged as the FBI was conducting background checks ahead of a Senate confirmation hearing.

Trump said the secretary of the Army, Mark Esper, will be named as the new acting defense secretary. Esper, who is widely respected inside the Pentagon, had been considered a leading contender for the job if Shanahan was ultimately not confirmed.

But the decision, which Trump said owed to Shanahan's desire to spend more time with his family, promises to prolong what has already been the longest period without a confirmed secretary of defense. Shanahan was the longest official in history to serve as secretary of defense in only an acting capacity, according to Pentagon records.

Trump's critics had already questioned whether Shanahan, without Senate confirmation, had the power to stand up to Trump if he had a difference of opinion on military strategy, since his nomination could be withdrawn at any time.

The former Boeing executive did not have prior experience in national security matters before he was picked by then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to be his deputy. Shanahan had been in the job, in an acting capacity, since Mattis stepped down at the end of 2018 citing policy differences with Trump.

Trump's announcement of Shanahan's decision came shortly after USA Today reported that the FBI had been examining a nine-year-old domestic dispute involving Shanahan and his then-wife as part of a background check for the job as Pentagon chief.

The newspaper reported that Shanahan said he "never laid a hand on" his former wife. But USA Today reported that both he and his wife had claimed they had been punched by the other.

The Washington Post reported a gruesome incident involving Shanahan's teenage son allegedly hitting his mother, Shanahan's ex-wife, with a baseball bat, leaving her unconscious, in a pool of blood.

"Bad things can happen to good families … and this is a tragedy, really," Shanahan was quoted telling the Washington Post this week. He added the disclosure of the incident would "ruin my son's life."

Pentagon officials could not be immediately reached for comment about the domestic violence reports or about Trump's announcement.

A source familiar with the situation said Shanahan met Trump in the Oval Office on Tuesday morning, telling him that he wanted to step down. The source, speaking to Reuters on condition of anonymity, said the decision was 100 percent Shanahan's.

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$1 Billion worth of cocaine seized at Port of Philadelphia

That's about 16.5 tons, a record for the area.

NATE HOMAN
letters@metro.us

Law enforcement on Tuesday seized more than $1 billion worth of cocaine from a cargo ship docked at the Port of Philadelphia, making it one of the biggest drug busts in the nation's history.

The U.S. Attorney's Office said federal law enforcement agents boarded the MSC Gayane, which was docked at the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal along the Delaware River on Tuesday afternoon, and netted 15,000 kilos of cocaine. That's about 16.5 tons of the potentially lethal narcotic.

U.S. Attorney William McSwain said in a tweet that such an amount of cocaine "could kill millions — MILLIONS — of people. My office is committed to keeping our borders secure and streets safe from deadly narcotics."

Members of the cargo ship crew were arrested and face federal charges, officials said. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection said that a massive investigation is underway.

"Homeland Security Investigations and Customs and Border Protection are leading a multi-agency inspection of shipping containers aboard a merchant ship at the Port of Philadelphia," ICE said in a statement. "We will release additional details when it is appropriate to do so."

The drugs were reportedly found at the Packer Marine Terminal, the largest dock along the Delaware River, which receives huge container ships from overseas.

Investigators believed the seven containers were loaded with drugs at the ship's last port of call in the Bahamas, senior law enforcement officials told NBC Philly. The cargo ship reportedly made stops in Chile, Panama and the Bahamas.

In March, authorities netted $18 million worth of cocaine, the largest cocaine bust in the history of the Port of Philadelphia.

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Trump creates doubt over use of force to protect Gulf oil

Economic sanctions against Iran have been restored by the United States.

President Donald Trump said he was prepared to take military action to stop Tehran from getting a nuclear bomb but left open whether he would back the use of force to protect Gulf oil supplies that Washington fears may be under threat by Iran.

Worries about a confrontation between Iran and the United States have mounted since attacks last week on two oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz shipping lane at the entrance to the Gulf. Washington blamed longtime foe Iran for the incidents.

Tehran denies responsibility but the attacks, and similar ones in May, have further soured relations that have plummeted since Trump pulled the United States out of a landmark international nuclear deal with Iran in May 2018.

Trump has restored and extended U.S. economic sanctions on Iran. That has forced countries around the world to boycott Iranian oil or face sanctions of their own.

But in an interview with Time magazine, Trump, striking a different tone from some Republican lawmakers who have urged a military approach to Iran, said last week's tanker attacks in the Gulf of Oman had only a "very minor" impact so far.

Asked if he would consider military action to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons or to ensure the free flow of oil through the Gulf, Trump said: "I would certainly go over nuclear weapons and I would keep the other a question mark."

> **"We have been engaged in many messages, even this moment right here, communicating to Iran that we are there to deter aggression."**
> Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

Flight deck of the U.S aircraft carrier U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). REUTERS

The nuclear deal with Iran, which was reached in 2015 during Barack Obama's presidency, aimed to head off any pathway to an Iranian nuclear bomb. Trump says the agreement failed to address Iran's missile program or punish it for waging proxy wars in Middle East countries.

Tehran has decried the toughening of U.S. sanctions and urged other signatories to take action to save the nuclear pact or see Iran turn its back on the deal.

The United States will maintain its pressure campaign on Iran and continue to deter aggression in the region but does not want the conflict with Tehran to escalate, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Tuesday.

"We have been engaged in many messages, even this moment right here, communicating to Iran that we are there to deter aggression," Pompeo told reporters. "President Trump does not want war and we will continue to communicate that message while doing the things that are necessary to protect American interests in the region."

As tension with Iran rises, uncertainty about leadership of the Pentagon grew on Tuesday with the news that acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan had withdrawn from consideration to head the U.S. military. USA Today reported the FBI had been examining a 9-year-old domestic dispute involving Shanahan and his then-wife. REUTERS

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Manafort to remain in fed custody, citing health, personal safety

Convicted felon Paul Manafort will remain in federal custody, a U.S. Justice Department official said on Tuesday, citing concerns about the "health and personal safety" of President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman if he was transferred to a local facility in New York.

Manafort, serving a 7½-year sentence for tax fraud, bank fraud and other charges stemming from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe, faces New York state charges related to residential mortgage fraud, conspiracy and falsifying business records.

The veteran Republican political operative had been expected to be transferred any day from a federal prison in Pennsylvania to a New York City-operated jail to face the state charges.

But Manafort, 70, was transferred on Monday to the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC), a federal facility in Manhattan. On Tuesday, the Bureau of Prisons' website showed Manafort was there.

REUTERS

In a statement, a senior Justice Department official said Manafort's attorneys told the Bureau of Prisons they were concerned about "his health and personal safety" in local custody.

New York prosecutors did not object to the move, which would make Manafort available to the state when needed, according to letters obtained by Reuters.

"In light of New York's position, and Mr. Manafort's unique health and safety needs, the department determined to err on the side of caution by keeping Mr. Manafort in federal custody during the pendency of his state proceedings," the official said. "This arrangement will not have any impact on his state proceedings."

It is not clear if Manafort will remain at the MCC or return to Pennsylvania following his arraignment.

The MCC, which houses around 800 inmates, is where drug kingpin "El Chapo" is behind bars. Other criminals who have spent time there include Ponzi schemer Bernard Madoff, mob boss John Gotti and "Blind Sheikh" militant Omar Abdel-Rahman. REUTERS

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Philly elementary principal arrested in April resigns

Jovan Weaver, a principal of John Wister Elementary School, was charged with vehicular homicide.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Jovan Weaver, a principal of the charter John Wister Elementary School, resigned from his role after being arrested in connection with a deadly hit-and-run in 2017.

Weaver was charged with vehicular homicide, accidents involving death or personal injury, and tampering with physical evidence.

ABC reported that the hit-and-run occurred on Dec. 26, 2017. Officials said the victim, 58-year-old Anthony Rodgers, was crossing at 54th Street and City Avenue and was hit at about 10 p.m.

First responders found the victim unconscious on the road. He was taken to Lankenau Hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after the accident.

Investigators told outlets that Rodgers was hit by a red Lexus that fled the scene, and was later discovered on the 4600 block of North 19th Street. The car had blood on the exterior, and there was evidence that someone had tried to set the vehicle on fire.

According to reports, Mastery Charter Schools only found out about Weaver's April arrest last week, and they currently are conducting their own investigation. He was on administrative leave prior to his resignation.

The staff was made aware of the arrest on Friday, and parents were notified Monday. Many were shocked by the news, since Weaver was well-known in the community for bringing positive change to the area.

In a statement, a Mastery Charter rep said: "We were upset and deeply disturbed to learn that the principal of our Mastery Wister Elementary, Jovan Weaver, has been charged with vehicular homicide and related offenses. We learned the news of his arrest last week and immediately placed Mr. Weaver on administrative leave to investigate.

"Mr. Weaver resigned the following day and is no longer a Mastery employee. ... This is a very sad day for the Wister community. Mr. Weaver did an outstanding job leading the school's turnaround for the past three years. Students, parents, and staff spoke often about their love and admiration for him."

ABC reported that Weaver is out on bail and his next court date is July 9.

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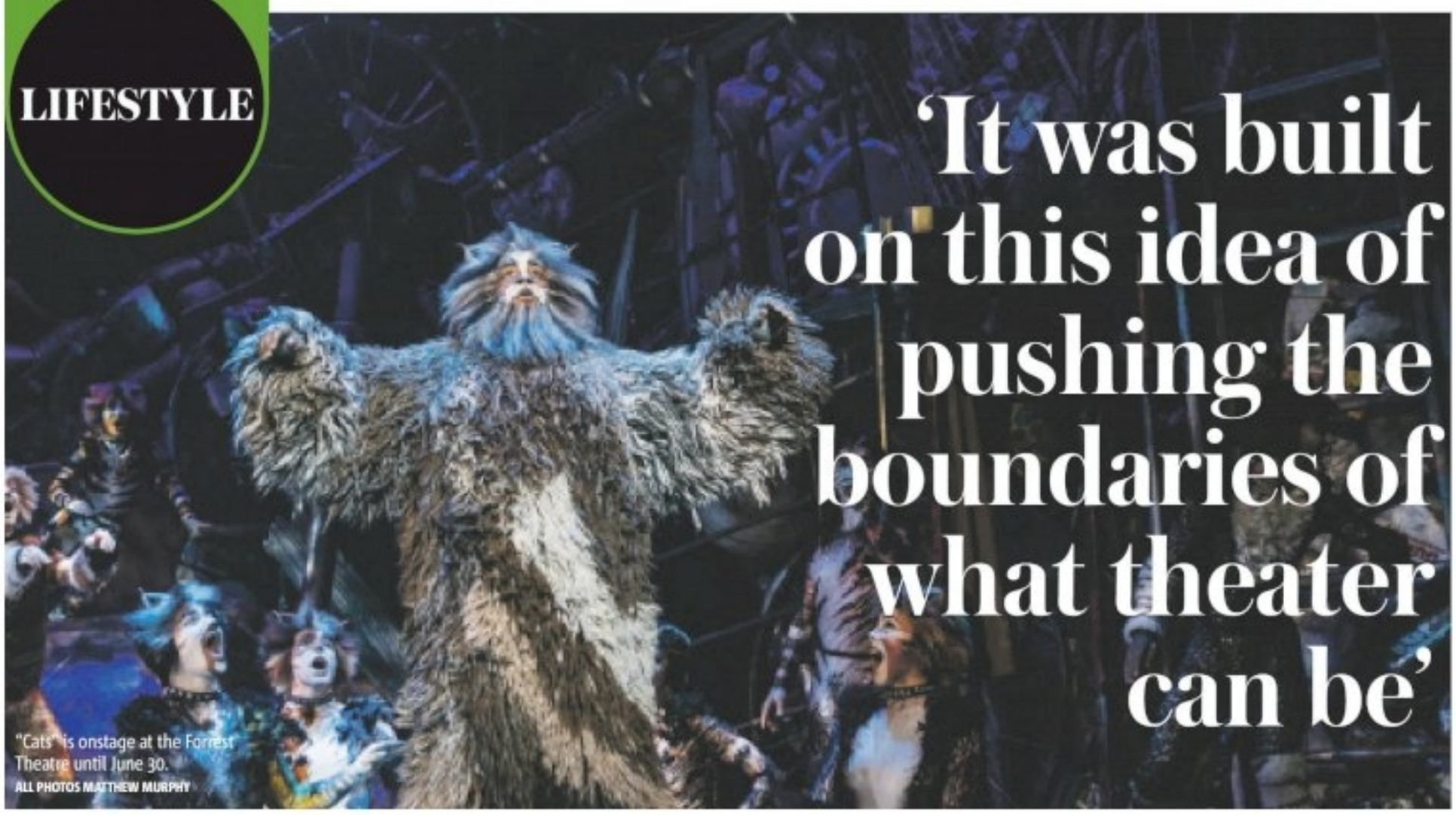

'It was built on this idea of pushing the boundaries of what theater can be'

"Cats" is onstage at the Forrest Theatre until June 30.
ALL PHOTOS MATTHEW MURPHY

Musical-theater actor Justin Geiss gives Metro the scoop on the new production of "Cats."

MOLLY GIVEN
MollyGiven@metro.us

Whether you're a die-hard theater fan or someone who has never even seen a stage show, chances are you've heard of the wildly popular "Cats."

"Cats" premiered almost four decades ago in London and immediately was deemed as "ahead of its time." The plot, costumes, staging and music are almost incomparable: There has not been another show quite like this. The massively influential production is headed to the City of Brotherly Love this month and will be at the Forrest Theatre from June 18 to 30. Justin Geiss, who plays a swing role in the incredible staging, sat down with Metro to discuss his passion for the show, talk about what goes into his role, and delve into why "Cats" continues to push the boundaries of theater.

Have you always been involved with theater? How did you land the part in "Cats"?

Theater is something I've always loved and have always been a part of since I was really, really little. My mom used to sing professionally and taught music in schools, so she really loved taking us to [see shows]. I was that kid that was just so excited to be there. When I was 7, I started ballet, and I trained for 12 years. As I got older, I was realizing that ballet just wasn't where my heart was anymore. I was constantly looking at all of these musicals that were popping up, and I was like, "Oh, I would love to be in that, but I could never do that." I had this voice teacher, Jack Beetle, who said, "You can do this. You can do it if you put your mind to it." I kept that with me for a couple of years and then I just decided [that] I have to go try it, to just see if I can do it. If I can't, then I'll come back, but I have to try. So I left and did a production of "A Chorus Line" — my first musical I've ever done. I had so much fun. That was a little bit over a year ago. Then I did a production of "Newsies" and then I booked "Cats," so it's been a fast transition for me as far as delving into musical theater. But "Cats" is a show that I've always absolutely loved and always kept close to my heart.

In "Cats" you perform as a "swing." What roles do you get to play in the show?

Getting to be a swing is very special. I understudy about eight people in the show [including] a booth singer, which isn't talked about as much but is very important to the show. We all are mic'd onstage and we all sing, but as everybody knows, "Cats" is a really hard dancing show, and there are some times where you are upside-down in a cartwheel or doing a split, and there is just no way you are going to produce sound. So we have four people who sit by the orchestra with microphones for each vocal part, and they sing the ensemble parts for the show. Now, whenever we have a solo [onstage], it's us singing; the booth singers are just there to give us some support. Whenever one of them gets sick, they swing me into the booth. Then I cover a couple of ensemble cats: Pouncival and Tumblebrutus, who are kittens; Coricopat, who is one of the twins and one of the very fun and interesting cats to play; and then I cover Alonzo. As far as features go, I also cover Mungojerrie, Skimbleshanks and Mistoffelees. I've never swung before, so not only to have my dream show be the thing I'm swinging for, but to be given seven people and a booth part — that was a lot, but I love it.

"Cats" to this day is still so wildly popular. What do you think makes this show so timeless?

Let's think about when this show came out. What other shows were surrounding it in this arena? It was girls in tiny little costumes with their heels on and the men were in pants and a shirt, and everyone was doing very traditional, jazzy stuff. So this show came out and kind of wiped away the fact that you need that very clear plot, and also put dancers onstage that were trained classically and, at the time, could do what average musical-theater dancers couldn't do. Then to put them in the mindset of, now you have to be a cat, not just be this beautiful dancer. You have to be feline and you have to maintain this while also telling a story — it was revolutionary. It really was. The original production was done in the round, so the audience was in the junkyard with you. [During] the overture, the cats were crawling through the audience and touching the audience. It was a very unnerving thing. At the time, you didn't go into the audience. There was this fourth wall that was very clear and it wasn't broken. So to all of the sudden have this cat crawl over you and you just paid money to see this — it was a lot. I think that aspect of it has really translated to today. It was so revolutionary when it came out. It was built on this idea of pushing the boundaries of what theater can be. Every time a new production comes out, we are still pushing the boundary of what it can be, more and more.

Did you feel pressure since the show is so iconic?

Oh my god, yeah. I was very nervous when I booked, I was freaking out a bit. At first, I was really excited, and then I got really nervous because I just find this show [to be] so amazing. It means so much to so many people. It's not just if the show is good or bad, it's more that I hope that I'm doing it justice.

The Forrest Theatre is located at 1114 Walnut St. For showtimes, tickets and more information, visit shubert.nyc/theatres/forrest.

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'I'm trying to work on projects that leave positive messages' ANNE HATHAWAY

The 36-year-old actress stars in "The Hustle" with Rebel Wilson.

PATRICIA CARRANZA, MWN
letters@metro.us

The Oscar winner for "Les Miserables" (2012) returns to the big screen with a remake of the comedy "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" (1988) starring Steve Martin and Michael Caine. In an interview with Metro, the actress spoke about her performance and the role of women in Hollywood.

What was it like to work with an actress like Rebel Wilson?
Rebel shines! When I met her, she surprised me because she is a reserved and very relaxed woman compared to what we see in the movies. I was very impressed by her talent because she has a great gift. She can lie and you will believe everything.

Do you think Josephine Chesterfield is very different from any other character you have played before?
I think so. Since I starred in "The Princess Diaries" (2001), I was always listed as a sweet, clueless girl. And then came "Les Miserables," where I suffered a lot. But in this film I play Josephine, who is very different from my other roles. She is a confident woman who always has everything under control. She is greedy and calculating. That's the incredible thing about being an actress, to be able to present new characters to the audience.

Do you like to delve into the development of your characters?
I always do it. When I was getting to know this character, we discussed whether it was necessary to present Josephine's childhood in the movie and put some drama into the story in order to make sense of her work as a scam artist. But I told Rebel that maybe that was not necessary to show why she was like that.

Do you think women are empowered in the film?
I think we raise a bit more awareness. I remember that my parents told me, "Your gender should never limit you, there is nothing you cannot do and nobody can belittle you for being a woman." And I grew up with that idea. But it was a shock for me when I went out into the real world and realized it's not like that. Because not everyone thinks the same way. I think that today everyone is talking about equality, mainly in Hollywood, and I think it is a moment of change. I do believe that in the last two years we have seen something is happening with female characters.

What happened with the movie's classification?
It was something for which Rebel fought a lot. At first the film had an "R" rating, which means that it is restricted to children under 17, which was totally absurd because it does not feature images or vocabulary not suitable for teenagers. As you know, Rebel — in addition to being an actress — is a lawyer. She sought a way to change the classification. She mentioned how ridiculous it was that the first film of 1988 starring men had a "PG" rating, which seemed ridiculous and sexist. In the end, she was successful and achieved the "PG-13" classification because most of our audience are adolescents and the jokes are directed at them.

Throughout your career you have played many characters. But which do you enjoy doing the most: dramas, comedies or science fiction?
I had never thought about that. I think what I like most is having a job [laughs]. I really like to have a balance in my career. It's funny because I remember when we filmed "Interstellar" and I had a lot of drama around me, there was a scene where I really felt alone. When we finished, Chris (Christopher Nolan, the film's director) gave me a hug and I thought, "I really need to do a comedy." But I love dramas.

What kind of comedies do you like to perform in?
I always seek to work on projects that leave positive messages. Life is so hard that it is great to see a good story that makes you feel comfortable and that you can watch as a family.

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Aries Ignore anyone who gives you a hard time. Your focus should be on your responsibilities and living up to your promises. Diplomacy will work in your favor.

Taurus If you connect with an old friend or colleague, you'll be offered valuable information. Take time to digest what you find out and mull over what you should do next.

Gemini Visualize what you want, consider what it will take to reach your goal, and put a practical plan in place. Maintain a steady pace, an open mind and a strong work ethic.

Cancer A proactive approach will help you get your way. Use your intelligence and connections to convince others to follow your lead. Walk away from extravagant people and situations.

Leo Take the initiative and check out a health fad that's worked well for someone you look up to. With a little effort and discipline, you can obtain the appearance and healthy look you desire.

Virgo An energetic approach will help you meet any challenge that comes your way. Events that involve older or younger people in your life will highlight your day. Take advantage of a sale.

Libra Don't let someone's insensitivity get to you. Focus on family dynamics. Listen to complaints and look for solutions. Make adjustments to your living arrangements. Offer peace and love.

Scorpio Make plans and follow through with them. The help you need and the chance to try something different will fall into place. A transformation at home will help you get things done.

Sagittarius Concentrate on personal relationships, a makeover or novel ways to use your skills, talents and knowledge. Refuse to let anyone meddle in your affairs. Romance is highlighted.

Capricorn Speak up about the way you feel, and then get on with your day. Much can be accomplished if you have a plan in place and the support you need.

Aquarius Nothing will be as it appears today. Don't pass up an opportunity that could lead to extra cash. Put items you no longer use up for sale.

Pisces If you attend an event, you'll meet someone who shares your concerns. Don't be timid. If you see something or someone who interests you, take the initiative to investigate further. EUGENIA LAST

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New and improved

Mama Palma's recently revamped their venue and reopened doors as Palma's Cucina.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Palma's Cucina recently reopened their doors. ALL PHOTOS MIKE PRINCE

Fitler Square is a quaint part of the city, home to many unique little coffee shops, gorgeous parks and charming dining destinations. One staple spot that almost everyone who frequents Fitler Square knows is Mama Palma's. Recently, the neighborhood meeting place closed its doors to undergo a renovation, and now, Mama Palma's has resurfaced and opened once again, but as the improved Palma's Cucina.

Brother-and-sister business partners Renato and Brunella Russo have owned Palma's since 1996, and the duo decided it was finally time to revamp the eatery. "We are finally ready to unveil our new space to the neighborhood, and we're very proud of the new menu," said Renato Russo in a release. "We hated having to close the restaurant for two months, but we cannot wait to welcome the neighborhood back in to see and taste what we've been working on."

Palma's Cucina had their soft opening the first week of June, and already the eatery has been a hit in the neighborhood. With a new aesthetic, menu and beverage selection, this hot spot is truly ready to take on a new clientele and challenge.

The new menu features inspiration from the Russos' family history in Santa Lucia di Serino, located in Avellino in Italy's Campania region. The Russos emigrated from Santa Lucia di Serino in 1972, and the new dishes being highlighted at Palma's will focus less on pizza and more on dishes authentic to the Russos' hometown in southern Italy — including several items inspired by family recipes.

"Everything is being customized, and I'm excited to be offering more composed Italian dishes, featuring family recipes and inspiration from my southern Italian heritage," added Renato, in the release. "We're still going to offer a variety of our original gourmet pizzas, but we're excited to introduce our delicious new dishes and a few surprises, which we feel the neighborhood will love."

Mouthwatering menu items include lobster cannelloni, roasted oysters, roasted mussels, veal meatballs with ricotta cheese, chicken livers, fettuccine bolognese, grilled octopus, eggplant rollatini, wood-fired branzino, a selection of 14-inch gourmet pizzas, and Palma's popular signature, the warm polenta bread plate. Although pizza is no longer the main focus, the selection at Palma's Cucina will still be irresistible and made to order in the restaurant's wood-burning brick oven.

Palma's Cucina is also offering a rotating selection of seasonal local craft beers, wine (while using their new state-of-the-art wine chiller), cocktails and more. Philadelphians will also still be allowed to bring their own bottles of wine (one bottle per every two guests) if they wish.

Palma's Cucina is located at 2229 Spruce St. For more information, visit palmascucinaphilly.com.

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SPORTS

Flyers acquire Braun from Sharks

Chuck Fletcher continues to retool his defense.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The Flyers gave up a pair of draft picks for veteran defenseman Justin Braun. GETTY IMAGES

Philadelphia Flyers general manager Chuck Fletcher continued his busy offseason on Tuesday, trading a second-round draft pick in 2019 and a third-round pick in 2020 to the San Jose Sharks for defenseman Justin Braun.

Braun is a nine-year veteran, having spent his entire career with the Sharks. He became expendable shortly after San Jose secured Erik Karlsson with a massive eight-year, $92 million contract on Monday.

The 32-year-old is a stay-at-home defenseman, having never recorded more than 33 points in a season. He posted two goals and 14 assists in 78 games last season while logging an average of 20:18 in ice time per game.

More important is his vast playoff experience, having appeared in 84 postseason games during his career.

It's just the latest move by Fletcher to overhaul the Flyers' defense, which was one of the franchise's largest weaknesses last year.

Philadelphia allowed 281 goals last season, third-most in the NHL thanks to that sieve-like defense and a shaky goalie situation that finally found some stability with Carter Hart.

Since the end of the 2018-19 season that saw the Flyers post just 81 — their lowest output in over a decade — Fletcher has parted ways with familiar faces to change things up.

Andrew MacDonald was placed on unconditional waivers while Radko Gudas was traded to the Washington Capitals for veteran blueliner Matt Niskanen.

Niskanen, 32, provides even more experience compared to Braun with a little more offensive flair to his game. Regardless, the two will be vital for the development of fellow right-handed defenseman Philippe Myers.

The Flyers remain high on the 22-year-old Myers, who played in 21 games last season.

"We're bullish on Philippe Myers' upside," Fletcher said during a conference call over the weekend, per NBC Sports Philadelphia. "Going forward, we feel we have an in-house player in [Myers] that can come in and take on some of that role. He's only played [21] games in the NHL, so there could be an adjustment period, but having the ability to maybe slot Philippe into that third slot on the right side we feel is a real proper place for him to potentially start his NHL career."

Should Myers be the favorite as the No. 3 right-side defenseman behind Niskanen and Braun, the Flyers will have more work to do to clear the blue line up. Robert Hagg and Samuel Morin could be made expendable seeing as Shayne Gostisbehere, Travis Sanheim and Ivan Provarov were top four defensemen last year.

Braun is under contract through the 2019-20 season before hitting unrestricted free agency.

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Sports betting 101: Dodging mistakes

SugarHouse Casino's sportsbook manager dishes out the basics of sports betting.

JIM LLEWELLYN

Jim Llewellyn is the sportsbook manager at SugarHouse Casino.

GETTY IMAGES

You're not always going to win big when wagering on sports, but there are some precautionary measures that you can take to increase your odds of victory. In Part One, we highlighted the pitfalls of emotional betting and bankroll (BR) mismanagement. In Part Two, we highlight common mistakes novice sports bettors and even veteran sharps often make.

Chasing losses

Sports betting is essentially a game unto itself. Made up of wins and losses, your profits and losses can swing massively, even when applying the previously mentioned BR management rules. Trying to recoup lost money by betting larger sums or by betting on more games is a common mistake. "The home teams in the early games and away teams in the late games" has been muttered many times on an NFL Sunday. Be smart and consistent with your bet size and avoid "doubling down to catch up." "Chasing" (betting more on each bet until you win back your losses) can have a devastating effect. Many sportsbooks give you the opportunity to set betting and deposit limits when you sign up that can help you avoid this particular pitfall.

Drunk betting

This should go without saying, but you don't have to look hard to find horror stories about people who lost huge sums of money because they were drinking and gambling at the same time. Yet, you'd be surprised how many bettors log in to their sportsbook account or walk to the window while under the influence. Alcohol impairs judgment and makes you less inhibited, which is a recipe for disaster. Save the drinks for the celebration after your underdog pulls the upset.

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Phillies vs. Nationals game pick

Phillies starter Nick Pivetta (4-1, 5.00 ERA) will square off with Washington Nationals ace Max Scherzer (5-5, 2.81 ERA) in Game 2 of a split-admission doubleheader on Wednesday night. Bettors should be all over Washington in the first five innings market.

To bet on Phillies versus Nationals and all MLB action now, go to **MetroBet.us/Sugar** and enter promo code **METROBET**. By doing so you will receive up to $250 in free deposit match money!

Pivetta has struggled mightily against the Nationals throughout his career. He's 1-5 with a 10.94 ERA in his last eight efforts against Washington (seven starts). Third baseman Anthony Rendon has done plenty of damage in 15 prior at-bats against Pivetta, posting a .533 average with three home runs and nine RBI.

Scherzer has excelled against the division-rival Phillies in the past, going 6-2 in 12 prior starts (77 2/3 innings) with a 2.78 ERA. First baseman Rhys Hoskins' 0-for-14 lifetime record against Scherzer stands out; likewise for catcher J.T. Realmuto's 3-for-39 mark. Philadelphia's 17th-place rating in runs per game on the road this year (4.62) does not inspire confidence.

The play: Nationals first five innings

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MLB futures: NL Cy Young Award

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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As we explored yesterday with the NBA, futures are a good long-term investment when betting on sports.

Even in the middle of a season, you can find advantageous futures odds on which team will win the championship, as well as which players will win postseason awards.

One segment we have looked at consistently is MLB postseason awards futures, particularly key Phillies players in the mix. Aaron Nola was +700 to win the National League Cy Young Award before the season started but is now not even in the top 10 most likely winners at **MetroBet.us/Sugar**.

Here is a look at the current NL Cy Young Award odds:

Hyun-jin Ryu, Dodgers +150
M. Scherzer, Nationals +275
S. Stasburg, Nationals +650
Luis Castillo, Reds +1100
Jacob deGrom, Mets +1100
C. Kershaw, Dodgers +1600
W. Buehler, Dodgers +1800

Nola is now at +2500 at **MetroBet.us/Sugar**, meaning that if you bet $100 on him to win the award and he does so this fall, you would win $2,500 and get a payout of $2,600. It's a long shot, for sure, considering Nola has allowed a whopping 14 earned runs in just three starts this month. But all Phillies fans know that the talent is there for a late-season bounceback.

GETTY IMAGES

The 26-year-old had an excellent month of May as he gathered four wins and had a 2.73 ERA. There are also more than three full months of the regular season remaining.

Unlike the MVP award in baseball, pitchers can often get away with winning the Cy Young despite being on a mediocre team. Jacob deGrom captured the award last year while pitching for a Mets team that finished 77-85.

Last year's American League Cy Young winner also played for a non-playoff team as Tampa Bay's Blake Snell got the nod.

This is why you can't dismiss Scherzer or Stasburg in this race, either, even though the Nats are in fourth place in the NL East at 33-38.

To bet on MLB futures now, go to **MetroBet.us/Sugar** and use promo code **METROBET**.

Sports on TV Highlights

1:00 pm	**MLB Baseball** Philadelphia Phillies at Wash Nationals Game 1	NBC Sports Philadelphia
7:00 pm	**MLB Baseball** Philadelphia Phillies at Wash Nationals Game 2	NBC Sports Philadelphia
3:00 pm	**Women's World Cup** Japan vs. England	FOX Sports 1
8:00 pm	**Gold Cup** Cuba vs. Martinique	FOX Sports 1
10:30 pm	**Gold Cup** Mexico vs. Canada	FOX Sports 1

American League betting breakdown

Though media buzzed, betting markets barely blinked when the Yankees acquired American League home run leader Edwin Encarnacion from the Seattle Mariners this past weekend.

Was that a mistake that bettors can exploit? Are the Yankees significantly bigger favorites to win the AL East, AL or World Series with Encarnacion in the daily lineup? Should they be even pricier than they already are in daily money lines?

Among the reasons odds didn't react …

*The Yankees were already on the short list of potential World Series champions. The acquisition may have only made a strong team fractionally stronger in a way that wouldn't meaningfully impact win/championship percentages.

*There's a perception that New York's biggest area of need right now is pitching. Encarnacion's arrival didn't help with that.

*History has made it clear that adding "name" sluggers in their mid-30s or older tends to generate more publicity than actual wins. Global betting markets are driven by sharps using analytics. That kind of bettor doesn't get excited by this kind of move.

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Keith Bernard Bell 2, Dorothy Dayee 6, Sylvia Lee 63, Aleah Blandford 134, Mrs. Patricia A Holmes 220, Patricia A Holmes 220, Quierre Wall 235, Venus Jones 289, Sakeya Auld 326, Adrian Goodman 407, Mary Coffee 534, Arnetta Batts 563, Danielle Jeffries 568, Robert Johnson 587, Decontee Kpou 614A, Jacqueline Rickards 660

Metro Self Storage, 4440 E Bristol Rd, Trevose, PA 19053 • 215-396-1110
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Thomas Bobrownicki 1031, Thomas Pico 1110, Tracy Gaeta 1112, Kristen Kowal 2314, Thomas Bobrownicki 3092

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John Goetz 171, John Goetz 313

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Amanda Herbott B007, Michael Schabener K025, Joseph Brabazon WB033

Carson Wentz and the Eagles will have one public practice at Lincoln Financial Field this summer. GETTY IMAGES

Eagles will charge fans for lone open practice

Public training-camp practice will be held at Lincoln Financial Field on Aug. 4.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Eagles fans are only going to get one shot at seeing their favorite team practice this summer at training camp.

And it won't be free, either.

The Eagles cut their public training-camp practices from two down to just one this season. For the first time, fans will be charged $10 for admittance into Lincoln Financial Field to watch. All proceeds will go to the team's charity, Eagles Autism Challenge.

"As the team continues to build upon its fundraising efforts and overall commitment to advancing autism research, individual tickets for the public practice at Lincoln Financial Field will be $10 per ticket," the Eagles released in a statement. "One hundred percent of the ticket proceeds will support the highest-quality and most impactful autism research to improve the lives of affected individuals and families now, as well as foster the acquisition of knowledge, technologies and discoveries that will bring new opportunities in the future," the team said.

While the funds are being put toward a good cause, the Eagles continue to alienate themselves from their fans.

In 17 years of training camp at Lehigh University, the Eagles annually held as many as 18 open practices for fans. Once camp was moved back to Philadelphia in 2013, it was cut to just five.

All other Eagles practices this summer will be held at NovaCare Complex practice facility.

For lower-income families, training camp provided some of the only opportunities for some fans to be able to see their favorite team in person, given the exorbitant prices of preseason and regular-season games.

Per ESPN, the Eagles join the Seattle Seahawks as the only teams that don't have an open, free practice for fans. The Seahawks charge a $10 transfer fee for mandatory shuttle buses that bring fans to their training facility.

The Eagles will hold the open practice at Lincoln Financial Field on Sunday, Aug. 4, beginning at 7 p.m. Just four days later, they will take on the Tennessee Titans in their preseason opener at home.

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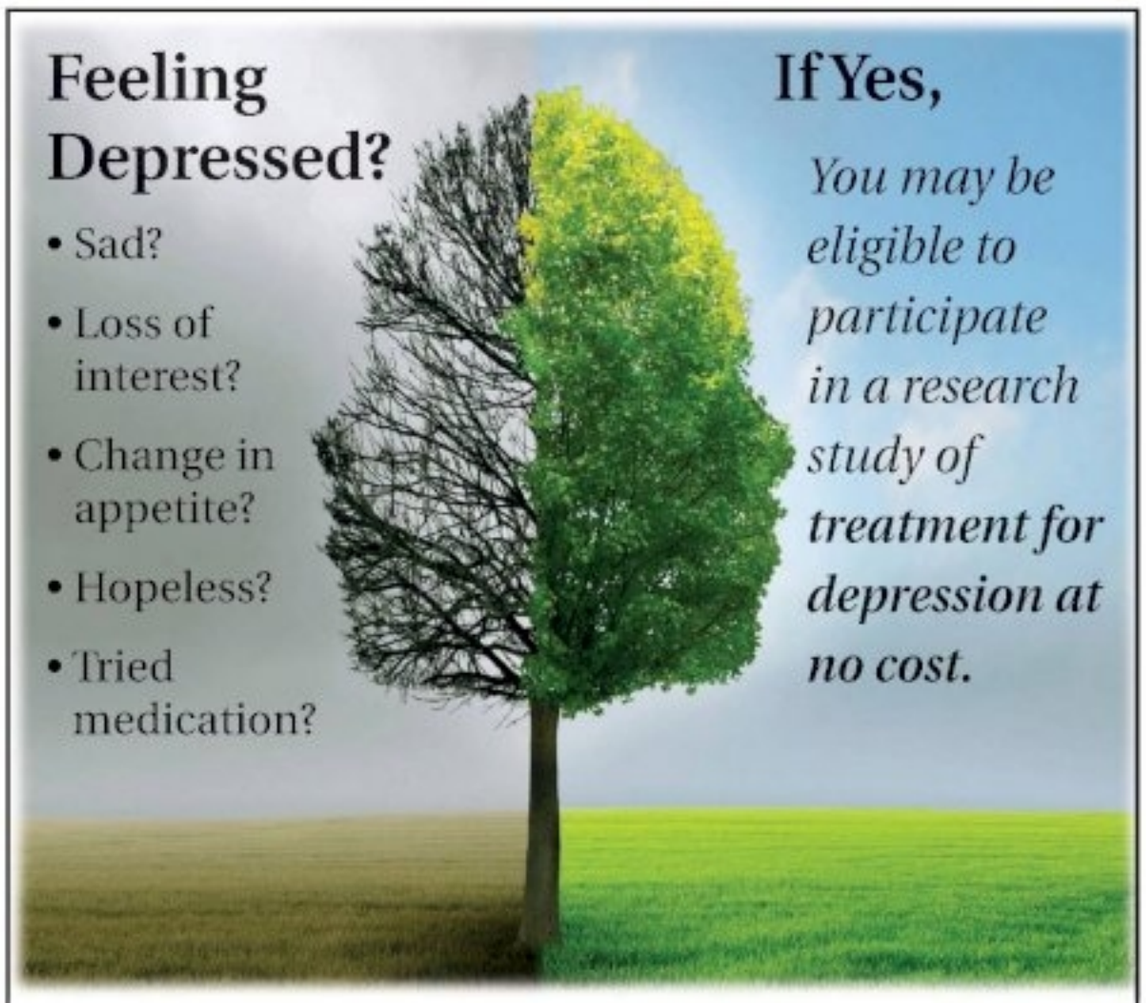
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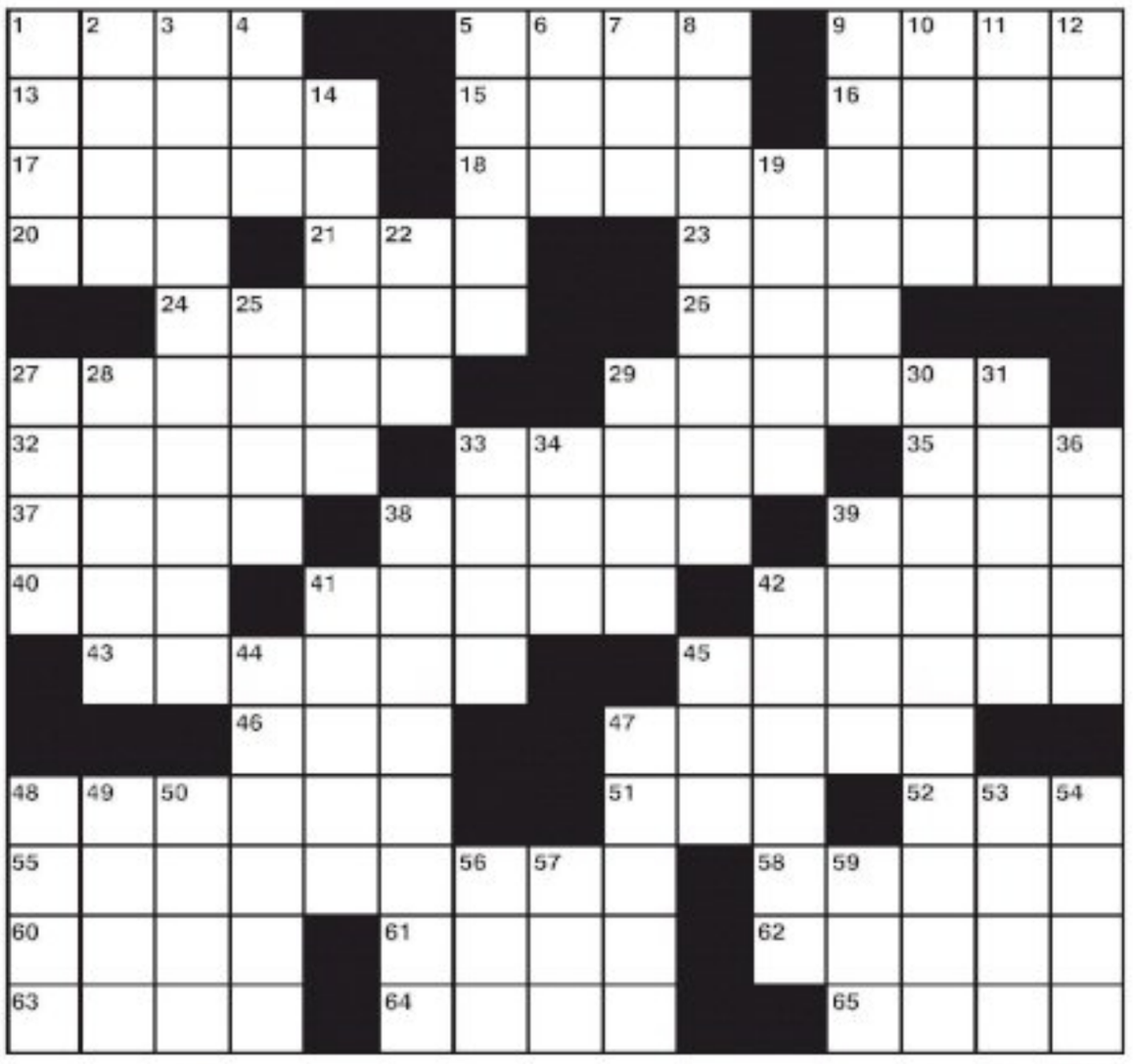
5 Read over quickly
9 Red Muppet
13 More pleasant
15 Not vivid in color
16 Hockey score
17 Male relative
18 Plato's famous pupil
20 "Wow!"
21 Saloon
23 Licorice sticks
24 Gets closer to
26 Fleur-de-__
27 Spin
29 Champion
32 Sudden & sharp, as pain
33 Complain childishly
35 Soft drink
37 Tiny veggies
38 Antler feature
39 __ on; incite
40 Tit for __
41 Battle
42 Zodiac sign
43 Isaac or Wayne
45 Free-for-alls
46 Coop dweller
47 Slacks
48 1 of 13 on the U.S. flag
51 Recipe verb
52 Plant
55 Mentor
58 Popeye's love
60 Chief Norse deity
61 Watercraft
62 Fray
63 Actor Randall
64 Fluctuate
65 Repair

DOWN
1 __ as a bug in a rug
2 Forest tree
3 Emphasize
4 __ Aviv
5 Ship poles
6 Auto
7 Actress MacGraw
8 Baby bird
9 Self-centered person
10 Plenty
11 Sweet creamy drink
12 Bullring shouts
14 Partial refund
19 Once and again
22 TV's "The Kids __ Alright"
25 Polishes off
27 Engrossed
28 Body of water
29 Grape bearer
30 Tyrannical
31 Baton __, LA
33 Songbird
34 Road __; inconsiderate driver
36 Experts
38 Covered wagon travelers
39 Sandy residue
41 __ down; resigns one's post
42 Peddler
44 Neigh softly
45 Crazy
47 Shindig
48 Dumfries resident
49 Hustle & bustle
50 Wreck
53 Dutch __
54 Actress Tuesday
56 Regulation
57 "Scent __ Woman"; Al Pacino film
59 On the __; fleeing



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Arbuckle
Arlene
Cat
Comic
Davis
Garfield
Jim
Jon
Lasagna
Monday
Nermal
Newspaper
Odie
Panel
Pooky

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A	R	G	O	I

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8	2			1		5		
2		8		7	5		6	
		4				7		
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		1		5			3	7
					6	1		2
3	5			8	1	4	9	

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